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FINAL REPORT 2022

Project: Mental health impact of COVID-19 on university students at UWC and MU

Collaborators:
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Kristen Hawley (UM)

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Dear Prof. Unhoff,

Thank you for the opportunity to be part of UMSAEP. With the COVID-19 pandemic, we did not travel between UWC and MU. Instead, we completed a study. Herewith, our final report.

Our project focused on the mental health impact of COVID-19 on university students at UWC and MU respectively. Prof Padmanabhanunni generated an online survey covering a range of items regarding knowledge of the COVID-19 virus as well as socioemotional functioning for administrators to both UWC and MU students.

Prof Padmanabhanunni acquired ethical clearance for the project focusing exclusively on UWC students on 1st June 2020. This original project formed part of a collaboration with staff members in the Psychology Department and preceded UMSAEP. The survey was distributed via email to the student population beginning June 2020 and collection at UWC was completed in 2020. There were 341 responses.

Ethical clearance at MU required a separate application and Prof Hawley received ethical clearance in February 2021. She distributed the survey to MU students through the campuswide MU Info email advertisement in March 2021. We had limited student responses so we reposted through the MU Info Ad system monthly through December 2021. We had a total of 68 responses. The more limited student responses to the survey at MU is disappointing and may have stemmed from the lack of an incentive for survey completion. In order to make data collection practices parallel to those at UWC, we opted not to offer an incentive to MU students for survey completion. However, it is possible this decision led to a low response rate because MU has multiple paid

